

AGRIVIEW



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Annual Vermont Farm Show Returns To Essex Junction, January 28, 29, 30

By Jackie Folsom, Farm Show Manager

The Annual Vermont Farm Show returns to the Champlain Valley Fair Grounds in Essex Junction for another exciting year! Scheduled as always for the last Tuesday through Thursday in January, this year's dates are January 28-29-30.

The move from Barre to Essex Junction took place three years ago and has afforded the Show the opportunity to offer more exhibits, activities, meetings and lots of free parking. For agriculture professionals, it is an opportunity to meet with vendors, preview products and machinery and network with the farm community. For consumers, it's a great venue to learn about technological advances in agriculture that benefit all sizes and all kinds of farms.

We'll also have some great animals



There's tractors galore at the Vermont Farm Show!

on display! This year, enjoy miniature donkeys as well as a Morgan horse, sheep, llamas and birds.

We are again proud to partner with the Vermont FoodBank – so

even though admission to the Farm Show is free, we are asking all those attending to donate a canned or boxed good to the greeters as you walk in the front door of the Miller

Building. The response was wonderful last year, and we hope to continue filling the shelves at the FoodBank.

This year, Consumer Night will be held Wednesday, January 29th from 4-7pm. Food enthusiasts will enjoy the Buy Local Market, which will showcase foods and products from Vermont farms. The "Capital Cook-off," an Iron Chef-type competition featuring the Vermont House of Representatives, Senate, and Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, will also occur this year. Teams will have ninety minutes to create a dish using Vermont products bought at the Buy Local Market. Visitors to the event will have time to purchase all sorts of Vermont products from the exhibitors while waiting for the Cook-off winners to be announced!

For more information, including a list of scheduled 2014 exhibitors, visit www.vtfarmshow.com.

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We're Ready for 2014!

January is always an exciting and busy time in Montpelier, as legislators return to town to kick off the new session. The Agency is abuzz with staffers preparing to testify about the key issues facing agriculture in our state. The legislators return with vigor and vision and we always look forward to having them back in town.

This year's legislative session promises to be an interesting one for Vermont agriculture. The issues legislators will address range from

labeling genetically engineered foods, to pesticides, to beekeeping, to compost. I look forward to engaging on these issues, and keeping you informed.

Here's to another great year for Vermont agriculture.

Charles R. Ross

National Study for Dairy Producers

By Robert C. Brady, DVM, USDA Veterinarian

Dairy producers are asked to participate in many surveys, but one is coming up that will be worth your time.

In January, 2014, USDA's National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS) will launch its sixth national dairy study. Vermont has participated in all of them, beginning in 1991. As with all NAHMS nation-

al studies, objectives for the Dairy 2014 study were identified through focus groups and a needs assessment survey completed by various stakeholders in the U.S. dairy industry, to ensure that the study will focus on issues that dairy farmers and other stakeholders consider priorities. The objectives for the 2014 study are:

- Describe trends in dairy cattle health and management practices.
- Describe management practices and production measures related to animal welfare.
- Estimate the prevalence of lameness, and evaluate housing and management factors associated with lameness.
- Evaluate heifer-calf health from birth to weaning.
- Describe antibiotic use and residue prevention methods used to ensure milk and meat quality.
- Estimate the frequency and antibiotic resistance patterns of select food safety pathogens.

One objective of Dairy 2014 is to evaluate heifer-calf health from birth to weaning. To address this objective, NAHMS convened a group of international experts in calf health to help design the calf component of the study. In addition to collecting disease information, the group also wanted to determine the impact of other factors on the health of calves, including difficult calving, colostrum management, housing, etc.

Benefits of the Dairy 2014 Study

Participating producers will receive:

- Customized reports describing animal welfare measures, heifer-calf growth and productivity, the risk of drug residues in meat and milk, and how to address these risks. Based on questionnaire responses, these reports will allow producers to compare their practices and productivity measures with those of other dairies. Best management practices/industry goals will also be included.
- The opportunity to improve the health and productivity of heifer calves, from birth to weaning.
- Reports and information sheets.

The dairy industry will benefit from:

- Current and scientifically valid estimates of management practices, disease prevalence, and other information important for trade and the health of the dairy industry (e.g., benchmarking).
- Trends in the implementation of management practices and the prevalence of foodborne pathogens.

About 300 dairy operations participating in the 2014 study will be given the opportunity to take part in the calf component. Participation in this component requires that each operation enroll two heifer calves at

birth per month for 12 months (24 calves) and monitor them through weaning. During this time, the calves will have serum IgG concentrations measured, BVD testing using ear notch samples, and feces collected to evaluate for certain parasites. In addition to the samples collected for testing, data will be collected on calving problems, colostrum feeding, housing, vaccines, and disease episodes and treatments. Using calf tapes, the weight and height of each calf will be measured every two weeks until weaning.

Eighty-one randomly selected Vermont dairy producers will be contacted in January by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service and invited to participate in Dairy 2014. If you are contacted, please take the time to meet with the USDA representative and provide information for the study.

For more information on the national study, please visit: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/nahms/dairy/downloads/dairy14/Dairy14_is_DairyLaunch.pdf.

For more information on the 12 month calf study, please visit: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/nahms/dairy/downloads/dairy14/Dairy14_is_Calf.pdf.

If you have questions regarding participation in the study, please contact Robert Brady at 508-363-2296 or email Robert.C.Brady@aphis.usda.gov.

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Cleaning Bird Feeders And Other January Gardening Tips

By Charlie Nardozzi,
Horticulturist and
Leonard Perry, UVM
Extension Horticulturist

Cleaning bird feeders, giving your houseplants proper water, and checking your inventory of seeds and supplies are some of the gardening activities for this month.

It's midwinter, and birds have been visiting your feeder for months. However, unless you've been cleaning your feeder regularly, it could be making some of these wild birds sick. To minimize the spread of disease, empty and disinfect the feeder monthly with a solution of 1 part bleach to 9 parts water. Clean droppings off the perching area and make sure your bird food isn't moldy. If you don't like to use bleach, a household disinfectant cleaning product such as Lysol works too, diluted half with water. Allow to soak for 15 minutes, then rinse thoroughly.

If your indoor fig (Ficus) tree is starting to drop leaves, it may be due to your watering schedule. This includes the common Benjamin fig and rubber plant. Don't



over water, and don't let the plant stand in a saucer of water for an extended length of time or its roots may be damaged. On the other hand, don't let soil dry out completely either. Try to keep the soil evenly moist, watering thoroughly and then allowing the excess water to drain. Wait until the soil dries out slightly to the touch before watering again.

If your houseplants are growing tall and leggy, they probably need some supplemental light. Use lights to help compensate for short days. You can use fluorescent tubes, or most any spot lamp.

Best are those listed as "full spectrum" or "daylight" or similar wording. I like to use light fixtures that clamp onto a bookcase or similar extending surface. Place the lights 4 to 6 inches above the tops of the plants, and keep them on for about 16 hours a day using a timer available at hardware or home stores.

African violets make great houseplants and will flower in winter if given supplemental light as noted above for leggy houseplants. To propagate new plants, take a leaf cutting, dip the cut end in a rooting hormone powder, and stick the cutting in

a pot filled with vermiculite or sand. Cover the pot with a perforated clear plastic bag and keep the soil moist. In a few weeks you'll have new plants.

It's time to dust off the seed-starting equipment. Take inventory of trays, pots, and six-packs from past years and discard any that are cracked. Reduce risk of disease by soaking them in a solution of 10 percent bleach and water, or half-strength household disinfectant, then air dry.

Do a germination test on stored seeds to see how viable they are. Place 10 or 20 seeds between two sheets of moist paper towel and tuck into a loosely tied plastic bag. Place in a warm area, and check every few days. If germination is less than 80

percent, consider purchasing new seeds of that crop.

Winter is the time you'll get seed and plant catalogs in the mail if already on lists, or look for such in magazines and online to order. Looking through these, and through websites online, is a great way to spend many hours during our short winter days and long cold nights. Look for new introductions but, as for any plants, make sure they'll be hardy in your area unless annuals. Most these sources discuss hardiness and show the hardiness zone map, which you also can find online (www.planthardiness.ars.usda.gov). You can see online, too, how some of the newer annual flowers have performed in Vermont (pss.uvm.edu/ppp/aaswp.html).

Charlie Nardozzi is a nationally known horticulturist, author, gardening consultant, and garden coach (CharlieNardozzi.com). Distribution of this article is made possible by New England Grows-- a conference providing education for industry professionals and support for Extension's outreach efforts in horticulture. Dr. Leonard Perry is the Greenhouse and Nursery Extension Specialist for the University of Vermont. In this role Dr. Perry provides information and programming to the industry of Vermont, region, and North America. Home gardeners in Vermont and surrounding areas know him from his frequent television appearances on Across the Fence and radio. As a Professor, Dr. Perry along with graduate students has an active research program on all aspects of perennial production and overwintering. Students know him from his courses at UVM on Garden Plants and Indoor Flowers, with the Herbaceous Garden Plants course now available to anyone totally online. Dr. Perry is becoming known across North America for his internet web site-- Perry's Perennial Pages -- at which he features information, links, news articles, research and more on herbaceous perennials. For more articles, visit his website at <http://perrysperennials.wordpress.com/>

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DairyVision Vermont Will Help Foster Stronger Farms

By Louise Calderwood
DairyVision Coordinator

On Thursday December 12, a group of dairy farmers and dairy industry representatives met in Montpelier, Vermont for the first board meeting of DairyVision Vermont, a forward thinking program to assist and support dairy farm operations in building successful businesses. DairyVision Vermont will organize service provider teams composed of experts in all the aspects of dairy operations to work with individual farms to identify and implement steps to enhance profitable dairy production.

Reg Chaput of Chaput Family Farms in North Troy has spearheaded an advisory group for the industry-supported effort over the last year. DairyVision Vermont has secured a group of nationally recognized service providers, hired administrative staff and secured funding to launch the program. "As a dairy farmer I know what it takes to manage the many areas of a farm business and I saw the opportunity to bring the highest level of expertise to Vermont to strengthen the commodity milk industry. The dairy industry operates in a global market and to keep our competitive edge as dairy farmers, we really need to hone our business skills and management abilities," Chaput said. "DairyVision Vermont will give farmers the tools needed to do just

that; we're excited about what this program could mean to Vermont's dairy industry and to processors who are looking to do business in Vermont."

Chaput now serves on the board of the fledging organization.

Mark Magnan of Magnan Brothers Farm, a Fairfield dairy farmer, also serving on the DairyVision Vermont board, sees the opportunity of the program to grow the Vermont milk supply in an environmentally and financially sound way. Magnan said "Farmers are always mindful of the bottom line and we need to balance our production practices with good environmental stewardship. DairyVision Vermont will help us to develop strong businesses and protect Vermont's natural resources while we do it."

Jo Bradley, Chief Executive Officer of the Vermont Economic Development Authority and DairyVision Vermont board member commented on the value of the program to the state's economy. "Vermont has invested in the full circle of milk production, from feed producers to milk processors. DairyVision Vermont's focus on commodity milk production provides support for a vital component of Vermont agriculture, dairy farmers who sell milk to processors. Everything we do to increase the profitability of dairy producers provides value to the entire economy of Vermont."

Roger Allbee, a former

Vermont Secretary of Agriculture, is supporting this important initiative and will be working with Louise Calderwood, the Executive Coordinator of DairyVision Vermont. "When Reg called and asked to me work on development of DairyVision Vermont I knew it was a service that was needed," Allbee said. "We have a variety of technical assistance programs for farms in Vermont, but DairyVision Vermont is focused on one sector-commodity milk." Allbee went on to state that any size farm would benefit from the program and its services would be of equal value to conventional or organic dairy farms, "What we are looking for are farmers with forward thinking approaches to their businesses," Allbee said.

Dr. Joe Klopfenstein and Dr. Rick Bartholomew will head up service provider

teams consisting of Bruce Dehm, financial analysis; Tom Eaton and Brian Boerman, forage crop production and environmental protection; and Rick Hermonot, human resources management. Klopfenstein and Bartholomew will provide expertise in herd management and production. Dr. Brian Perkins and Dr. Gregory Bethard will serve as advisors to the service provider teams.

The first round of six farms to enroll in DairyVision Vermont will be selected in early January, 2014 with services scheduled to begin soon after. DairyVision Vermont will pay for one half of participation in the initial business assessment and plan development and the farm business will pay for the remainder. Following the development of the plan, a three to six month process, farms will continue to utilize

the teams of DairyVision Vermont service providers to implement and evaluate the strategies identified during the assessment. Applications for DairyVision Vermont are available from Louise Calderwood by calling 802-586-2239 or e-mailing dairyvisionvt@gmail.com

Financial and in-kind support of DairyVision Vermont has been provided by 15 individuals and organizations including: Ag Venture Financial Services, Agrimark, Andersonville Farm, Chaput Family Farms, Clifford Farm, Dairy One, Dairy Farmers of America, Magnan Brothers Farm, Miner Institute, Phoenix Feeds, St. Albans Cooperative Creamery, Vermont Economic Development Authority, Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund, Vermont Agency of Agriculture and Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development.

USDA Farm Service Agency Program Available for Ice Storm Damage to Sugarbushes

Vermont maple producers who sustained damage from the recent ice storm are encouraged to contact their county USDA office to apply for cost share assistance through the Farm Service Agency's Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) to help compensate them for losses.

USDA offers programs to help farmers, including maple producers, recover from damages caused by natural disasters. Maple producers should document their damage and take some photos if possible. ***It is mandatory that they contact their local FSA office and submit***

an application before they start work to remove debris or repair taps and tubing in order to be eligible for cost sharing through ECP.

The Vermont USDA service centers are:

Brattleboro: 254-9766
Middlebury: 388-6748
Morrisville: 888-4935
Newport: 334-6090
Rutland: 775-8034
St. Albans: 527-1296
St. Johnsbury: 748-2641
Williston: 288-8155
White River: 295-7942

Vermont's Harold Howrigan Jr. Elected Vice Chairman of Dairy Management, Inc.

By Jenny Karl, New England Dairy Promotion Board

Vermont dairy farmer Harold Howrigan Jr. has been elected to serve a one-year term as Vice Chairman of Dairy Management Inc.™ (DMI), which is based near Chicago. The election came last month during DMI's national annual meeting held in Phoenix, Arizona. DMI carries out promotion programs nationwide funded by dairy farmers from across the country.

Howrigan, who farms in Fairfield, VT, is currently serving a three-year term as a member of the National



Harold Howrigan Jr.

Dairy Board, representing dairy farmers from the northeast on dairy promotion

issues and programs. He also is a member of the board of directors of St. Albans Cooperative.

His appointment to the seat carries on a tradition of national dairy promotion leadership at St. Albans Cooperative. His late father Harold Howrigan Sr., had served as Chairman of the National Dairy Board during the mid-1990s. His sister Ellen H. Paradee, also served one term on the National Dairy Board.

"Harold has been an active and articulate advocate for Vermont and New England's dairy community," said Leon Berthiaume, Chief Executive Officer of St. Albans Coop-

erative Creamery. "He will be a valuable voice for Vermont dairy farmers and farmers throughout the country."

DMI, which manages the national dairy checkoff program, serves as the parent organization in a federation of state, regional and national dairy "checkoff-funded" promotion organizations.

The 38-member National Dairy Board, formed in May 1984 under the authority of the Dairy Production Stabilization Act of 1983, carries out coordinated promotion and research programs to help build demand and expand domestic and international markets for dairy products.

New England Dairy Promotion Board (NEDPB) is the local affiliate of the American Dairy Association, which conducts sales promotions and marketing programs on behalf of local dairy farmers. New England Dairy & Food Council (NEDFC) is a non-profit nutrition education organization staffed by registered dietitians. NEDFC is a state and regional affiliate of the National Dairy Council® (NDC). The two organizations share a Board of Directors comprised of local dairy farmers and work jointly to increase demand for New England dairy products.

Sharpen Your Chainsaw Smarts

By George Cook,
UVM Extension

All of us use a chainsaw in the sugarbush from time to time. With the recent ice storm, many have been spending more time than they wanted clearing debris from lines, roads and equipment. Remember, chainsaws are designed to cut...period. Saws have no conscience. Be careful and allow only trained personnel to operate a saw.

Kickback can be deadly; the upper corner of the bar must never come in contact with wood. The reaction speed and force can change your life in a split second. Chainsaw chains move at a

speed of 45–60mph—you don't get a second chance. When sawing, keep the RPMs up...less chance of a kickback. A sharp saw is a safe saw. While holding the saw, always keep your thumb wrapped around the handle grip; this locks your hand to the saw, so a kickback is less likely to tear it from your grip.

Safety equipment such as the chain brake must be properly maintained and used. Don't "save it" for when you think you need it, use it every time you pick up the saw...it's like the brakes on your vehicle, you use them all the time. If you must take more than three steps...set the brake. Wear



safety gear: chaps, helmet, steel toed boots, snug fitting, yet not restrictive clothes.

Look up, look around. Are there snags, broken limbs, "widow-makers", electric lines overhead? Always be aware of your surroundings

and others who may be in the woods with you. Is it windy? Probably not the safest time to be doing woods work, are there other jobs that can be done and return to the woods when it is calmer?

Spring-poles, bent over saplings by a downed limb, especially numerous after the ice storm, are a huge source of pent up energy. Be very careful around them, releasing tension gradually from the underside. If you cut one of these from above, or it snapped and hit you, the force could be lethal.

Training is for everyone, even the most experienced. The Game of Logging is a training program for anyone handling a saw in the woods: novice, experienced, professionals. If you have the opportunity, take advantage. Lamoille County Sugarmakers hosted levels 1 and 2 last fall...practical, to the point, very worthwhile!

Vermont Food Service Companies Embrace Local “Harvest of the Month”

By Katherine Sims, Executive Director, Green Mountain Farm-to-School

Two of the major food service management companies in Vermont—Café Services and The Abbey Group—have joined the Harvest of the Month (HOM) project and pledged to feature a variety of local produce year-round. Together these two companies serve 89 schools statewide. Their commitment more than doubles the number of students and communities benefitting from this new program. Local farm sales are up as well.

HOM offers beautiful and informative free materials to help participating schools promote the use of local, seasonal foods. Original illustrated posters, recipes, and curricula materials about the featured items are supplemented by a monthly e-newsletter, with lots of ideas about how to incorporate the produce into school meal sites and community celebrations.

HOM kicked off this fall as an easy way for schools to incorporate the “3 Cs” (classroom, cafeteria, and community) of Farm-to-School. Food Connects in Brattleboro and Green Mountain Farm-to-School (GMFTS) in Newport developed the program with support from the Vermont Community Foundation’s Food and Farm Initiative, Green Mountain Coffee Roasters, Inc. and the

Harris and Frances Block Foundation.

“HOM is not only having an impact on the students by getting more healthy, local foods featured on school menus, it is also giving our farmers a boost,” says Katherine Sims, GMFTS Executive Director. “We recorded local sales of broccoli and cauliflower at 8 to 10 times that of our pilot program last year.”

“The Abbey Group sees this as a win-win,” adds Nina Hansen, School Nutrition Specialist. “We are already committed to local purchasing, but HOM adds a wonderfully designed grassroots way to get kids to try new foods and whole communities thinking about ways to use produce that is grown close by.”

For Café Services President and CEO Brian Stone, the decision to join HOM was clear. “The program makes it very easy to give these seasonal items great exposure in our cafeterias and is a welcome addition to our efforts to bring healthy foods to the institutions we serve.”

To date the HOM network reaches over 40,000 students at 164 Vermont schools, with more joining every week. According to figures from the Windham Farm and Food hub the number of buyers for the monthly featured item has doubled compared to a year ago.

“Many schools have a strong interest in promoting local food, but don’t know

how to get started,” explains Food Connects Executive Director Richard Berkfield. “This project was modeled, field-tested, and launched to address this challenge.”

The Community Foundation’s new Food and Farm Initiative is supporting work at the intersection of local agriculture and food security to ensure that all Vermonters have the opportunity to eat healthy, local food. “The commitment from these businesses is critical to getting this campaign off the ground,” said Janet

McLaughlin, special projects director at the Foundation. “We look forward to seeing all of Vermont’s schools join the Harvest of the Month network.”

To find out if a school is in the HOM network, check the interactive Google map at <http://goo.gl/Kab4dm> or send an inquiry to hom@gmfts.org.

To find out more:

- Food Connects www.foodconnects.org or contact Richard Berkfield at Richard@foodconnects.org, (802) 258-8902

- Green Mountain Farm-to-School www.GreenMountainFarmtoSchool.org, or contact Katherine Sims at ksims@gmfts.org, (802) 334-2044.

- Café Services, Brian Stone, President/ CEO, bstone@cafeservices.com

- The Abbey Group, Nina Hansen, School Nutrition Specialist, nina@abbey-group.net

Free Health Screenings Available at the Farm Show

By Louise Waterman, VAAFM

Visit the healthy farmers-healthy farms booth at the Vermont Farm Show this year! After entering the main doors, take a right into Expo North and we’re immediately on your left. Enter the drawing for some great prizes!

There will be free Tdap immunizations on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 am – 1:30 pm each day. Tdap protects against Tetanus, Diptheria and Pertussis (Whooping Cough). Everyone needs to be immunized with one dose of Tdap. After an initial dose of Tdap, Td (Tetanus/diphtheria) vaccine is given to all adults every 10 years to maintain protection. All adults who never received Tdap vaccine should get it as soon as possible. Tetanus enters the body through cuts and scratches; the tetanus bacteria live throughout the environment and are commonly found in soils contaminated with manure. Diptheria and Whooping Cough

are spread person-to-person by coughing and sneezing.

We’ll be offering **FREE** health screenings and information, including:

- Blood Pressure screening
- Blood Glucose monitoring
- Body-Mass Index information
- DermaScan screening for sun damage
- Hearing information
- Smoothie Bike: pedal the bike to run the blender making yogurt smoothies
- Nutritional information
- Farm First information
- Free massage!

These services are generously provided by VT Agency of Agriculture, VT Farm Show, VT Farm Health Task Force, Farm First, Blue Cross Blue Shield of VT, UVM Extension-VT AgrAbility Project, VT Department of Health, Open Door Clinic, Fletcher Allen Health Care, UVM School of Nursing, American Cancer Society of VT, Vermonters Taking Action Against Cancer and the Wellness Massage Center and Institute.

Is Your Farm Ready For An OSHA Inspection?

By Louise Waterman, VAAFM

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is ready to increase farm inspections. The federal safety and inspection agency has been doing random safety inspections on dairy farms in Wisconsin. Now they plan to turn their attention on New York State dairy producers and plan to start a series of inspections next fall.

OSHA has decided to launch a “dairy local emphasis program” in New York in order to curb the increasing number of farm related accidents and deaths in the State.

These safety inspections will involve everything from requiring that all tractors manufactured after October 1976 be equipped with roll-over protective bars and that sinks or eye washes will need to be located near every

place that chemicals are being used. There are at least a dozen safety violations that OSHA will be looking for on the randomly selected dairy farms they plan to visit in the Empire State, including the requirement that warning signs need to be posted anywhere employees could be physically harmed. OSHA inspectors can fine farmers on the spot when they identify safety standards that are not being properly adhered to.

According to the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA), any farm that employs 11 or more employees at any time during the previous 12-month period or offers temporary housing to employees during that period (regardless of how many employees) is subject to OSHA regulatory oversight. A farm is exempt from all OSHA enforcement if the

farm employs 10 or fewer employees currently or at all times during the last 12 months and has not had an active temporary labor camp during the preceding 12 months. Family members of farm employees are not counted when determining the number of employees for OSHA oversight. A part-time employee is counted as one employee. It's important to note that while farms that employ 10 or fewer employees are exempt from inspection, they are not exempt from OSHA regulations. Every farm should have a written safety program in place no matter their size.

Participate in the Vermont Farm Safety Program—

Protect your employees and family from injury and help implement OSHA standards on your farm.

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, in conjunction with UVM Extension and the Vermont Department of Labor has a program that offers producers the opportunity to develop and/or strengthen and improve your on-farm safety program. You might feel your farm is a safe place to work. You may even hold employee safety meetings. But if your program isn't written down – documented – it doesn't exist from an OSHA or insurance perspective.

The Vermont Farm Safety Program is in its sixth year of

demonstrated success in lowering workers' compensation premiums for dairy farmers. Numerous farms that have participated in the farm safety program receive discounts on their premium. A key component for producers is to have open and on-going dialogue with insurance providers to work toward lowering rates.

The Vermont Farm Safety Program is a voluntary program and all information will be kept confidential.

If you would like more information and or are interested in taking part in the Vermont Farm Safety Program, please contact: Louise Waterman, VT Agency of Agriculture.



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Agricultural Plastic Product Recycling Trial

February 1 – April 30th 2014

Casella Resource Solutions is offering free Agricultural Plastic Product Recycling to all Vermont producers from February 1st through April 30th, at five locations across the state. Recyclable items include silage and bale wrap, bunker cover, greenhouse film, nursery pots, trays and flats, maple tubing and mainline, and irrigation tubing. Producers must follow these simple steps for items to be accepted.

Best Management Practices for preparing plastic films/nursery containers for recycling:

- Keep plastic as clean and dry as possible,
- Shake out pebbles and clumps of soil,
- Roll or fold used film plastic into pillow-sized bundles,
- Store used plastic off the ground, out of mud, gravel and grit,
- Separate different types of used plastic by color and type.

Best Management Practices for preparing maple tubing for recycling:

- Remove all metal from tubing,
- Only polyethylene (PE) tubing will be accepted: no PVC. (PVC plastic sinks in water, PE does not),
- Plastic fittings (spouts and connectors) can be left in place,
- Coil tubing into loops or cut in lengths 4' long. (Keep large coils light enough to lift),
- Tie coils with a piece of drop line.

Collection Locations

MIDDLEBURY
Vermont Hauling
533 Exchange Street
Middlebury, VT

MONTPELIER
Vermont Hauling
408 E. Montpelier Road
Montpelier, VT

HYDE PARK
1855 Rte 100
Hyde Park, VT

HIGHGATE
2 Transfer Station
Highgate, VT

BENNINGTON
4561 Sunderland Rd.,
Arlington, VT

This Ag Plastics Recycling Pilot Program is an effort in conjunction with Casella Resource Solutions, the Vermont Agency of Agriculture and Agri-Mark/Cabot Creamery Cooperative. Special thanks to the RAPP Program at Cornell for use of their technical information regarding agricultural plastic BMPs (see www.facebook.com/Recycling.Agricultural.Plastic). Questions? Contact Annie Macmillan, Vermont Agency of Agriculture via email anne.macmillan@state.vt.us or by phone 802-828-3479.

Remember: Grit and gravel destroy recycling equipment so avoid or remove as much as possible!

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Farm to Plate? How About Farm to Glass!

By Rachel Carter
Vermont Farm to Plate

As the farm-to-glass movement blooms, Vermont's cideries, distilleries, and wineries are using a growing list of local ingredients, including apples, berries, grains, milk whey, vegetables, maple sap and syrup, honey, and grapes. Unlike Vermont's craft beer industry, Vermont's cideries, distilleries, and wineries can source from small, but local supplies of ingredients. While Vermont's brewing industry largely relies on out-of-state sources of hops and malt, University of Vermont Extension's Northwest Crops and Soils Program is providing early stage research support and technical assistance for in-



Wade Wolfard

state potential. Despite Vermont's small size, cideries, distilleries, wineries, and breweries are demonstrating national leadership in fast growing segments of the alcohol beverage industry: hard cider, ice cider, craft spirits, boutique wine, and craft beer.

Vermont is well-known for apple production and hard cider is an increasingly important value-added product that is winning awards and bringing more dollars by volume for the 'second-rate' apples being pressed into crisp bubbly drinks. Vermont apple growers who are diversifying their products can earn \$135 per bushel when their apples are made into hard cider compared to \$9 per bushel for non-alcoholic cider production. Vermont is now home to at least nine hard cider makers.

Vermont's craft distilled spirits are using numerous local ingredients and gaining international recognition for superior quality. Fifteen distilleries concocting a range of spirits from vodka and gin to rye whiskey and maple liqueurs are located throughout the state.

At least 27 wineries are spread throughout Vermont, and are one of the leading agritourism income generators in the state. Wine tours, tastings, pairings, and events are popular



Ted Fisher

For Immediate Release

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets have received an application for a Milk Handlers license from the following entity: Snake Mountain Enterprises, LLC to transport dairy products in the State of Vermont. If anyone has germane information as to why or why not this company should or should not be licensed those comments are to be sent to:

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture Food and Markets
Dairy Section Office
116 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05620-2901

All written comments must be received by February 17, 2014.

At that time the Agency will make a determination as to whether a hearing will be held. If we determine that a hearing is necessary and you wish to attend please write to the above address attention Dairy Section.

outings for both Vermonsters and tourists as well as examples of agricultural land stewardship. Snow Farm Vineyard adopted both agritourism and land conservation principles as one of Vermont's earliest commercial vineyards, opening in 1992 with a mission "to preserve Vermont's agricultural land in the face of rapid development by providing an alternative for farmers."

The new Hard Cider, Spirits, and Wine section of the Vermont Farm to Plate Strategic Plan was published in December, detailing the emerging trends and market development opportunities for Vermont's cideries, distilleries, and wineries. The Farm to Plate Strategic Plan is Vermont's ten year food system plan tasked with increasing economic development and jobs in Vermont's food and farm sector and improving access

to healthy local food for all Vermonsters.

Since the Hops and Beer section of the Farm to Plate Strategic Plan was originally published in May 2013, the number of Vermont breweries has grown from 27 to 31, with several more currently under development. Vermont now has one brewery for every 20,193 residents—more per capita than any other state—and has generated over \$196 million in total economic value in 2012. This chapter was updated and republished in December.

Both chapters can be viewed on the Vermont Food Atlas—the Vermont information clearinghouse of all Vermont food and farm sector resources, including all sections of the Farm to Plate Strategic Plan and the 300 member organization Farm to Plate Network responsible for implementing the plan. www.VTFoodAtlas.com

VERMONT VEGETABLE AND BERRY NEWS



Compiled by Vern Grubinger,
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www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry

Reports From The Field

(Warren) Still harvesting miner's lettuce (Claytonia) from high tunnels. I used to hate harvesting winter greens because my hands would get cold; now with that new Johnny's harvester it's kind of a no brainer. Pretty much sold out of root crops; just parsnips and carrots left. I am looking real hard at wash house efficiency again this winter. Last season saw the improvement of putting basically everything I could think of on casters and the return on investment was super easy to see. Nobody likes the wash house so from a morale perspective we try not to spend any more time than we have to in there.

(Benson) I've been thinking about how long it takes to develop a good working winter production system. We've been at the winter growing for eight years or so and each year is very different. We assess our successes and failures and decide what to do different next time. The only problem is that we have to wait a whole year to try again. This is what makes it interesting and challenging. Maybe ten more years and we'll have it figured out. At any rate,

this winter has been very good. Markets are strong. Demand for greens and other good food is growing, and I believe our year 'round winter market in Rutland has helped to fuel demand for folks that simply do not want to go to the store for vegetables any more. A 52-week market never lets customers down and they make it a weekly trip. Lots of kale, chard, Asian greens and chard from the high tunnel. The radiant heat has been especially important this winter to preserve quality and provide at least some opportunity for plant growth. I plan to run the radiant for only three more weeks or so and then let the sun do its thing. Low tunnels and minis have been OK. We usually find one day a week to uncover and harvest during the 2 or 3 hours available this time of year. Enjoying the winter schedule and routine; not looking forward to spring just yet.

(Huntington) Winter wholesale and retail markets have been steady or up slightly; the problem is we're running out of produce. After a few nights in the -17F range, kale in high tunnel (double poly w/ inflation, no row cover, gable vent open except on very cold nights) still looks great, though most the harvestable leaves have been picked at this point. Winter squash stored better than expected, though not as well as in an ideal season. Overall I'm pleased with how well things have kept, given the disease pressure that was out in the fields this summer. We are expanding our climate-controlled storage capacity this winter to help alleviate the fall space crunch and improve packing house work flow. I'm a little disappointed that organic producers are going to have to go through

yet another season without biodegradable plastic mulch; as much as I like having a dumpster, filling it up weekly with plastic mulch during August and September is a chore I would love to do without.

(Burlington) During the ice storm we enjoyed in December, slabs of ice slipped off of our greenhouse poly, slid down to the hip board, and sliced through two layers of poly, falling inside the greenhouse. Good thing we had only covered one of our four new houses the week prior! Seems like heat would be the only thing that would have helped, but that's tough to do in a large structure we are not planning to heat. On the bright side, our Salanova transplants that went in 12/9 look great despite all the chilly weather, and we are looking forward to raised beds and better mulch laying with our new Rainflo mulch layer.

(Rochester) Raspberry root stock has been ordered. We will be putting in half an acre of Prelude, whose summer crop should be early enough to be mostly ahead of the SWD buildup, and whose fall fruit should ripen after our nights are cool enough to slow it down, and we will pick the fruit ahead of spoilage.

(Weare NH) Greens are growing ever so slowly in the tunnel under remay. The cold damaged some lettuce and arugula. Spinach and most lettuce looks good. Caterpillar tunnels not fairing as well as last year, more damage from the ice and snow. Think I'm going to start using metal tubing instead of the PVC tubing I've used the last 3 winters. Working on a whole farm irrigation plan and hope

to have a better handle on watering this year. Less of a patchwork system. Also expanding my seed starting capacity by 2/3 so I can do more of my own onions instead of purchasing them. I have calculated it will cost me about half as much if I do them myself. Reviewing notes and lessons from last year in the hopes of being more efficient and productive this year.

(Little Compton RI) We got started late on planting our houses this October due to shortage in help but we did have someone start some plugs of various items. They kept us on track quite well and we are not too far off our production schedule. Salanova is doing well and taking the cold and disease pressure quite well. The dog in the houses are the Hakkurie Turnips. They really seem to be shutting down and the voles are running free and wild under the canopy and nibbling all the way. Yukina is still a great crop; I can't give it away in September but last week we sold 60 bags in the first hour and a half at the Saturday market. Out big purchase this season will be a five-row 3 point hitch setup of the Jang precision seeder. We also intend to get into banker and trap crop plants for our greenhouses, which sound promising. In general, markets are decidedly weaker this winter; I don't know why. I hear it the same all around New England.

(Argyle NY) It was a challenging fall with getting the high tunnels seeded and planted, but they are producing fairly well. We have been harvesting Salanova heads of lettuce from outside until 2 weeks ago. They were fine in a small 14'x100' tunnel with 3 layers of rowcover on

them at 12 below zero. High tunnel harvesting of salad mix just started this past week with the salad mix lettuce being a perfect size and the August 15 seeded Salanovas being ready as well for salad mix. Both types will regrow. Some of our favorite salad mix varieties this winter are: Blade, Refugio, Spock, Sulu, Bolsachica, Gaviota and Eerostar. There has been no downy mildew at all; only one drenching of Root Shield Plus and Actinovate was done shortly after seeding. Swiss chard is small due to the lack of sun and real cold temps and the spinach is very slow to produce as well. Kale is doing well out of a small 20'x100' tunnel that was thrown over fall-planted beds, and then row covered. Our markets are slower this winter but are matching our supplies with the extreme cold. We are still looking for winter/2014 interns who are excited about being farmers!

Your Feedback Needed On Vermont Vegetable And Berry Extension Programs

Please take five minutes to do a short evaluation of this newsletter, the vegetable and berry grower web site, and a few other resources for growers. Your input is very important to me! In and out-of-state responses are welcome. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VernsEvaluation>

Join Vermont Vegetable And Berry Growers Association and/or Attend Annual Meeting

If you would like to be on the listserv in 2014, join the VVBGA! Dues are \$25 per farm per year, \$30 after Jan. 23. This link also lets you register for the annual meeting on

continued on page 15

MARKET REPORT

Wholesale Prices

January 15, 2014

Wholesale prices paid per dozen for Vermont Grade A brown eggs delivered to retail stores.

Vermont Egg Prices:

Jumbo \$2.50
X-Large \$2.25
Large \$2.20
Medium \$1.43

Demand is good and Market and Supply are good.

You can find more reports online at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm>
This is the web source for USDA Market News



Northampton, MA • January 14, 2014

All prices are per hundredweight on the hoof unless otherwise indicated.

Source: Northampton Cooperative Auction Association, Inc., www.northamptonlivestockauction.homestead.com

Calves:	LOW	HIGH	
Good & Choice: 61-75 lbs	23.00	39.00	cwt
76-95 lbs	25.00	60.00	cwt
96-105 lbs	49.00	54.00	cwt
106 lbs and up	45.00	65.00	cwt
Farm Calves	70.00	185.00	cwt
Starter Calves	33.00	125.00	cwt
Feeder Calves	70.00		cwt
Vealers	none		cwt
Bulls	85.00	110.00	cwt
Heifers	64.00	86.00	cwt
Replacement Cows	none		each
Steers	52.00	116.00	cwt

Cows:	LOW	HIGH	
Canners	40.00	74.00	cwt
Cutters	76.00	88.00	cwt
Utility	90.00	98.00	cwt
Sows	none		cwt
Hogs	65.00	66.00	cwt
Boars	none		cwt
Shoats	none		cwt
Feeder Pigs	40.00	50.00	each
Lambs	165.00	235.00	cwt
Sheep	52.50	105.00	cwt
Goats	60.00	205.00	each
Rabbits	1.50	17.00	each
Hay (7 lots)	3.00	4.10	bale

Addison County Commission Sales • Middlebury, VT • November 18, 2013

Cattle: 143					
Calves: 250					
Slaughter Cows					
Breakers 75 - 80% lean	75.00	77.00	cwt		
Boners 80 - 85% lean	67.50	79.00	cwt		
Lean 85 - 90% lean	40.00	68.00	cwt		
Feeder Calves					
Holstein Bulls	92-125 lbs.	62.00	165.00	cwt	
	80-90 lbs.	60.00	80.00	cwt	
Vealers (good & choice)	70-120 lbs.	25.00	50.00	cwt	

CLASSIFIEDS

Advertising in Agriview

Classified Ads: **Free to subscribers only.** Limited to two ads per issue, ads will run for two issues. **Must include subscriber number with ad request** (number appears at the top of the mailing label)

Deadline For Ads: 10 days prior to the publication date.

Display Ads: Information available upon request

Classified advertisements must be sent:

- By mail: (see address on page 2)
- By e-mail: (to Agri-agriview@state.vt.us)
- By fax: (802) 828-2361
- Online at: <http://www.vermontagriculture.com/Agriview/agriviewclassified.html>
- We do not accept ads over the phone.

Only items of an agricultural nature will be listed. The only real estate which will be listed are tracts of Vermont land two to five acres or more which are being used or can be used for agricultural purposes. All Feed, Hay and Forage ads must have county, town, and phone number, **and must be renewed each month.**

The Secretary reserves the right to make a final decision on the eligibility of items listed. The editor reserves the right to censor and edit ads. The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets assumes no responsibility for transactions resulting through advertising in *Agriview*. Advertisers are cautioned that it is **against the law** to misrepresent any product or service offered in a public notice or an advertisement carried in any publication delivered by the U.S. Mail.

Ads must be limited to 40 words or less.

Bees & Honey

5-Frame nucleus colonies. Order before December 31 to get 2013 prices. Honeybees with our own Northern Survivor stock queens. Order now for April-May pick-up. \$140 each/no frame exchange. Also order Spring Queens. Singing Cedars Apiary at 77 Singing Cedars Rd. Orwell, Vt. 05760. (802)948-2057 or order on-line at www.vtbees.com (3/14)

Cattle

Blonde d' Aquitaine registered purebred bulls. Google "Blonddecattle" to check out breed. Blonde Cattle are noted for their quiet disposition, rapid/efficient weight gain and a long (yielding more premium cuts) carcass. Inspection by appointment. Select, purchase and take delivery by 2/15/14 and save with the 2013 price. Private treaty.

Paddock Farms, Plainfield, VT 802-426-4086 leave message w/best time or email beefbypfb@yahoo.com. (2/14)

9 year old PB Belted Galloway (Settled, 4/2014) with 8 month mismarked heifer by her side. Excellent mother. \$1500.00. Newbury, NH 603-763-9422 (2/14)

Wanted: Dairy Cattle, beef, bulls, steers, feeders, veal, sheep and goats, call 413-441-3085 and leave a message. (2/14)

Holstein heifer calves for sale. One week old, dehorned, navels dipped, given colostrum, healthy and eating well, can have tails docked if you'd like. A.I. from dams in a 28,000 lb. herd. Selling because we have started enough for our own replacements. We will have aprox. 25 born between now and March

1. Take one or all. \$100 each. Onan Whitcomb (802) 878-3334. (2/14)

9 year old PB Belted Galloway (Settled, 4/2014) with 8 month mismarked heifer by her side. Excellent mother. \$1500.00. Newbury, NH 603-763-9422.

20 Certified Organic Herford Yearlings! Absolutely stellar (and large) animals with plenty of growing left and ready to breed. Call 802-782-8833 (2/14)

Two miniature black angus bull calves, full blood and sired Kyptomite, going to be excellent bulls, call Bruce 802-748-9830. (2/14)

Jersey cow for sale, five years old, bred AI to Exc, bull preg tested, due 1/28 would make a fine family cow; very gentle disposition asking \$600. Also have yearling Jersey

CLASSIFIEDS

heifer sired by Stone \$350 contact 802-875-3159. (3/14)

Nice, healthy 10 month Belted Galloway Heifer. Ready to go. \$550.00. Newbury, NH (603)763-9422. (3/14)

Certified Organic Cows Wanted: Looking for high producing Jerseys or Holsteins with low SCC counts. Must be CERTIFIED. Prefer early to middle lactation. Also bred/springing heifers or dry cows soon to calve. 802-782-8833. (3/14)

Good looking two year old Highland Bull. Gentle with offspring. \$500.00 Call or email for info: 1(802)446-2118 skhalford@vermontel.net (3/14)

Employment

Herd Manager, Jasper Hill Farm has openings in our farm management team! Duties include milking, feeding, cleaning, and breeding cattle. Herd management, teamwork and ability to support our milk quality goals are essential skills. Delicious cheese begins with the best milk possible. Contact Emily-work@cellarsatjasperhill.com, 533-2566x106 (3/14)

We are looking for a reliable, dependable Herdsman to join us at our Dairy farm located in Rutland County. References required, Salary based on experience and knowledge necessary to complete required tasks, if interested call 802-235-2246. (3/14)

Equipment

Farmall Super C, 1952, reconditioned and ready to work or show! \$3000. Farmall Super A, 1950, I have two of these magnificent tractors for sale, both restored and again ready for show or work. Woods Mowever and plow & Chains \$3000 each. All

hydraulic lift, PTO and pulley option, wheel weights and good tread on the tires. Shouldn't every farmer have a Farmall? Email david@monkshood-nursery.com. (2/14)

Commercial Meat Band Saw S.S. and Galv contact 802-365-4000 evenings (2/14)

Saw Rig with blade to fit John Deere or International mounts on front end of tractor with side pulley \$300.00 contact 603-543-3616 (2/14)

Dairy Equipment for sale: Universal milking claws, DeLaval stainless steel shells, Boumatic pulsators and a Mueller plate cooler all priced to mail to: sell.gsearles@verizon.net 518-499-0239 Whitehall NY (2/14)

TMR Mixer Wagon. NDE 551LP vertical mixer with 2 speed gear box, rt. hand conveyer discharge & scales. 510 cubic ft. plus rubber extension. 540 PTO, new knives. \$11,000. 802-434-3269 (2/14)

2 pickup fuel tanks; 110 gallon with pump, filter, meter, hose & Shut off nozzle asking \$1000 OBO; 75 gallon Aluminum with no pump asking \$300 OBO, contact Al Highter at 802-373-3024 (2/14)

2007 Case/IH JX60 tractor with 34 Original hours!! 55HP engine, 45 Pto horsepower, Independent PTO, 3 cylinder diesel, Cat 2 hitch, 12X 12 Shuttle transmission, Absolutely as new! \$15000 Kubota L2650 4X4 diesel tractor with loader, new rear tires(R-4) Power steering, 8X8 shuttle transmission and only 750 Hours. Real nice tractor. \$9500 Frangard 2800 3 Point logging winch for tractors up to 40 horsepower, Like new, \$1950 Call 802-885-4669, Springfield VT (2/14)

Int'l 656- diesel-65hp- loader- chains \$4800. CI 585- w/ 2250 ldr- 4 WD- 55 hp- Nice!- \$12,500. Kuhn FC300- 10' Disk moco-flail- Fresh cutterbar! \$6500. Kuhn FC250- 8' Disk moco-flail- Fresh cutterbar!...\$5500. Gehl 250 tandem manure spreader- \$2200. JD 54 manure spreader...\$1450. 4', 5' & 6' Bush hogs...\$800. & up Frangard Winch V-5000- \$2300. 802-885-4000 (2/14)

8ft Drop Fertilizer Lime spreader \$8,000; 40ft John Deere Conveyer on wheels needs new tires \$1500; Snow plow with frame & lift cyl off Farmall Super C tractor \$2000; John Deere 1010 crawler gas manual angle blade works good ask \$5200, contact 802-674-5710 if no answer leave message. (2/14)

1-3 Point hitch bale spear \$125, call Bruce 802-748-9830. (2/14)

1080 Massey Ferguson tractor – set seized engine for part or fix up \$1500 old drum disc mower needs seal and bencing \$800; First choice sickle bar mower 7' \$1000; 1071 hesston mower conditioner \$1000; Allis-Chalmers square baler \$800 or best offer contact 802-477-3820. (2/14)

24 Victoria Grain Bin like new, 10 Grain bin good shape, John Deere Harrow excellent shape, 24 hay elevator, 36 hay elevator, 72 hay elevator, contact 802-624-0306 cell or 802-895-4683. (3/14)

2 pickup Fuel Tanks, 110 gallon with pump filter, meter, hose & shut off nozzle, asking \$1000 OBO. 75 gallon Aluminum with no pump asking \$300 OBO contact 802-373-3024 Al. (3/14)

1947 2N tractor good tires, good tin, needs paint job will run \$1800. 1939

Farmall H Tractor, needs rear tires, good tin \$900 contact 603-256-3202. (3/14)

John Deere transport harrows all re done; hay elevator all different lengths; 24 grain bin excellent shape; 6 to 7 tin brock grain bin good shape, call 802-895-4683 or 624-0306. (3/14)

Rears miniblast 50 gal stainless steel air blast sprayer excellent condition perfect for controlling 5WD in berries \$3000. Rears nifty fifty 50gal weed sprayer w/dual spray valve excellent condition \$1500 contact 860-633-2789. (3/14)

Takeuchi TB45 mini excavator w/3 buckets, rubber tracks are in excellent condition \$8500 contact 860-633-2789. (3/14)

100 Ton Hydraulic Jack has low & high speed \$400 contact 603-543-3616 (3/14)

Farm Tractor snow plow assembly, 7 1/2' Meyers all angle plow with bracket ass. Bolts to your loader bucket, comes with bolts and hydraulic hose, good condition, \$675, goose-neck hitch plate assembly, \$100, trades or best offers always considered contact 802-236-4917. (3/14)

6 IQ Milker units with 6 one touch pulsators. 1,000 gal Meuler tank with washer. Surge pacemaker stainless steel wash tank. 2" pipeline for 48 cows. 2 Surge 75+ Alamo pumps. Call for pricing and info 608-574-4586. (3/14)

JF Chopper Model FCT 900, grass head, 2 row corn head: 1000 PTO Excellent Condition \$15,000. Kuhn side discharge manure spreader, Model 8114 tandem axle. Excellent Condition only used 1 1/2 years. \$15,000 Call Roger Wood 802-695-8818 Concord, VT (3/14)

Double-6 herringbone milking parlor wanted. Clay stall parts and milking system. Call 802-645-0865 (3/14)

JD 330 round baler \$4,000; JD 7000 corn planter \$1,500; JD 3970 chopper with grass and 2 row corn head \$6,000; Lucknow 200 mixer wagon \$2,000 Brattleboro, 802/579-8241 (3/14)

MX230 Case Tractor: 6200 hours, engine completely rebuilt, deluxe cab, 3 ptos, 4 remotes, extra weights, 6 new Firestone tires 520-85R 46 rubber, excellent condition. asking \$92,500- (retiring must sell) call 802-849-6195 (ask for Dick) (3/14)

Farm & Farmland

Farm for Sale Dummerston, VT – 138 acres – 2 houses, barn, other buildings, 29 acres open land including 16 acres commercial Christmas trees and 105 acres woods. \$290,000. Restricted by conservation easement and option to purchase at ag value. Vermont Land Trust seeks only buyers who will farm commercially. Contact Jon Ramsay at (802) 533-

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Order now, Pay later
If the price drops—you pay less—never more!
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BALE WRAP

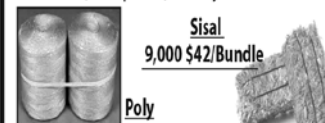
Available in white, green & black



20" \$63/Roll • 30" \$77/Roll

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7,200 up to 20,000 Poly available



7,200 \$27/Roll • 20,000 \$22/Roll

Net Wrap 48" X 9,844' \$218
51" X 9,844' cover-edge \$238

ALL SIZES available in Poly, Twine, & Net!
(please call if you don't see what you need)

BLISS FARM ENTERPRISES

"Farmer to Farmer" Sales

802-875-2031 • www.blissfarm.com • Chester, VT

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7705 or jramsay@vlt.org
or <http://www.vlt.org/initiatives/elysian> (2/14)

Dairy farm wanted: We are a family with one young child, looking for a dairy farm to rent or lease in Vermont. We are looking for a farm with a house nearby for our family, dairy facilities and enough grazing and hay land for at least 40 cows. We have farming experience and good references. Contact us at benharris40@hotmail.com or 907-317-3916 (2/14)

Farm and home with barn for sale with 30+ acres of the best farm land in the state, on the Conn. River. Presently used as organic growing site. Near I 91 off exit 5. House has 3 bedrooms, has been completely renovated, 27 new windows etc. \$499,000 Call owner Christian Blake 802-732-8888 (2/14)

Westminster VT Windham County 1.83 acres of choice land for home or business on paved Dead End Rd near High School on Cemetery Rd, Only lot on street, Private. \$29,000 will consider lease Call owner Christian Blake 802-732-8888 (2/14)

25 acre Moretown farm. Fenced paddocks and pastures. 4 bedroom 1½ bath house. 4 car garage. 11 stall barn. 60' x 168' multi-use building with riding area, equipment storage, 2 stalls and heated viewing room. Owners retiring. \$535,000. 802-496-9281. mac@gmavt.net. (3/14)

Hay, Feed & Forage

2nd cut good quality, tender Hay 18% \$5.00 contact 802-483-2870. (2/14)

organic 4' x 5' 2013 dry unwrapped round bales \$40; 2013 organic square bales 1st cut \$5, mulch bales \$3; 2012 8 x 200 2nd cut haylage \$30/ ton contact 802-334-2401 or

802-323-9793 (2/14)

20 NOFA Certified Organic 4' x 5' second cut round bales. Stored inside under cover. \$45 per bale. West Haven 802-265-4496 (2/14)

Certified Organic and Conventional 4'x5' round bales of 1st cutting, mixed grass hay. Stored inside. \$50 each when you buy a tractor trailer load (38). Help with trucking arrangements. Whitehall NY 518-499-0239, gsearles@verizon.net (2/14)

For sale small square bales, first and second cut, and mulch. Delivery possible. Chittenden County, Shelburne Town, 802-985-2015 (2/14)

Certified organic hay sq bales, never rained on, \$4.25 per bale at barn can deliver 802-537-3167 (2/14)

Hay for sale, small square, first cut, second cut, and mulch. Delivery possible. Chittenden County, Shelburne Town tel phone 802-862-3741 (2/14)

Corn silage in WRJ, VT \$65 TN delivery available contact Dan 802-356-7668. (3/14)

Certified Organic Hay Wanted: Looking for reasonably priced certified organic hay (round or large square bales). To be delivered to our farm in Georgia, Vermont. 802-782-8833. (3/14)

Certified organic hay sq bales, never rained on, \$4.25 per bale at barn can deliver 802-537-3167 (3/14)

200 tons of NOFA certified organic first cut haylage. \$40 per ton. West Haven 802-265-4496 (3/14)

Organic Grass Silage First and second cut 2013 organic grass silage. Will deliver within a 50 mile radius.

Call: 802-274-4934 – 802-274-4939 or 802-744-



2444 and leave a message. (3/14)

Organic 4' x 5' 2013 dry unwrapped round bales \$40 2013 organic square bales 1st cut \$5, mulch bales \$3 2012 8 x 200 2nd cut haylage \$30/ ton 802-334-2401 or 802-323-9793 (3/14)

ADDISON COUNTY

West Haven – 4x5 1st cut round bales, small 2nd cut square bales, contact Don Pettis at 802-265-4566. (3/14)

Addison – Large Square Bales, 1st & 2nd Cut, Under Cover, Never Wet, SL Moore @ (802) 463-3875 or Alden @ (802) 989-0479. (3/14)

West Haven - 20 NOFA Certified Organic 4' x 5' second cut round bales. Stored inside under cover. \$45 per bale. West Haven 802-265-4496 (3/14)

CALEDONIA COUNTY

We have fresh 2013 Certified Organic 4' x 4' Grass Silage Round Bales. First and Second cut available. Approximately 50% moisture content, fermented, net wrap bales with double wrap plastic. Excellent quality and quantity at this time. Contact us for further details and prices. Buffalo Mountain Farm. (802) 472-9360 or (802) 888-7881 (3/14)

GRAND ISLE COUNTY

Grand Isle – Hay 2nd cut; square bales @ \$4/bale. Call 802-372-3110 (3/14)

RUTLAND COUNTY

Processed corn silage for sale for details call Mike 802-345-2284 (3/14)

250 Square Bales of Real Nice 2nd & 3rd Cut Grass Hay. \$4.50 a bale. 802-483-6597 - evenings or leave a message. (3/14)

WINDHAM COUNTY

Guilford – 2013 4x4 round baleage – some early cut – certified organic also conventional contact 802-254-6982. (2/14)

WINDSOR COUNTY

Cavendish - Hay/balage for sale: 1st cut 4x4 wrapped balage 35.00/bale. 1st cut 4x4 wrapped dry hay 40.00/bale. Call Gary Palmer 802-226-7461 or Don Davis 802-376-5575 (3/14)

Springfield - Processed Corn Silage, \$60.00/ton loaded, 802-885-4000 (2/14)

COUNTIES OUTSIDE OF VT

1st cut small square bales, Crown Point NY, contact 603-529-7999 or 518-597-3502. (3/14)

Hay 1st cut \$4.50, 2nd cut \$6.00 contact 603-543-3616 (3/14)

General

Cedar fence posts 6, 7, 8 foot; cedar rail fence rustic 11ft \$6.50 ea.; Hay elevator, tube type 18ft new motor, belt \$650; Anderson Rock picker \$4950; N.H. 451 sickle bar mower, 7ft 3pt \$750; J. D. 336 baler w/k \$2950; Fertilizer spreader 3pt clean \$475; Brush Hog

4, 5 ft \$575 each; Kuhn 16ft tedder, clean \$4250; J.D. 1326 7ft mower-conditioner for parts \$750; Springtooth harrows, 10ft \$575; Ford 7600 diesel; J.D. 2440 diesel, cultivators; AC model 190xt new tires, new motor, contact 802-483-2870 (2/14)

Oster Clipmaster Livestock Trimmers/Clippers. This is a new set of trimmers for horses, cows, goats, and llamas. It was used only once. The set includes the trimmers, tool box, extra blades and air intake screens. The set cost over \$350 and I am asking \$150. These trimmers are ideal for 4H animals. Please call Emily in Charlotte. (802) 425-4528 (2/14)

Rough-cut lumber for sale: 1" x 6-20". Also 2 x 6 to 12". Custom cutting available. 802-535-4552; ask for Rich.

Goats

3 fullblood Boer bucks available. Born Feb/March. Would make great herd sires. Main Event bloodlines. CAE, CL, Johnes free herd. For pictures email khamilton811@yahoo.com 802-579-9223 (2/14)

Boer Goats for sale, herd reduction, 27 quality does have been with buck sine 11/16, would be an excellent starter herd or choose replacements, Orwell. Call for more information 802-349-4221, leave message or email wldiris@shoreham.net (2/14)

Long Field Farm is selling five Nubian/Alpine does, ages 5-6 years old, all have milk production records and can be sold bred for kidding in May or June, Trained to electric fence and grazing, have good feet. For more information, or to visit the farm, Call Lynn 802-563-2999 or by email juneiris@fairpoint.net. (2/14)

CLASSIFIEDS

Registered Boer Buck for sale, will be five years old in April, from the U Mass herd, excellent disposition, halter and electric fence trained, Orwell, 802-349-4221 leave a message or email wildiris@shoreham.net (3/14)

Selling our three, 9-month old female Alpine goats in Norwich. Registered with the American Dairy Goat Association with certificates of pedigree for each. Bottle-fed and will follow

everywhere outside of pen. Contact Jon or Holly at (802) 649-5253 (3/14)

Horse Equipment

Sleigh, 2 seats, 72" shafts, \$400, metal 3 tier saddle rack, holds 3 saddles, \$50. 15" synthetic Western saddle \$150. Never used 16 1/2" synthetic Western Saddle extra wide tree \$250, contact 603-756-4348. (2/14)

Sheep

1 Polled Dorset Ram big

healthy 6 years old \$100. Dorset Lamb 10 months old \$125. 2 ewes black Dorsets, one 10 years old-\$40 one 2yrs old \$75 or all for \$300 contact 802-592-3088. (3/14)

Sugaring Equipment

3x12 King Wood Fired arch w/stack preheater hood, wood saver blower, new pans used very little. 600 gallon stainless steel bulk tank for sap storage, \$7500. Contact 802-439-5568. (2/14)

Want to buy sap delivered to Strafford Road, Tunbridge, VT. We have a long history of purchasing sap at fair prices. We can also provide advice for your getting set up. Call Bill at 802-889-5661 or Nate at 802-881-2255, or e-mail at ndanforth@gpinet.com for information. (2/14)

Swine

Piglets for sale: real nice long babies, nice size \$40 each, also large sows & a boar to butcher or sell \$1.00/lb

call 802-483-6521 or 802-236-0133. (3/14)

Wanted

WANTED: Dutch Belt Heifer and Bull not related also mini Herefords call 603-336-0017. (3/14)

WANTED: Newborn bull calves in Mar/Apr 2014, angus-sired preferred, Call 802-453-4144. (3/14)

WANTED: Corn Sheller & Grinder. Please call 802-483-6597 - evenings or leave a message. (3/14)

Vermont Vegetable and Berry News

continued from page 10

January 27 in Montpelier. See: <https://2014vvbga.eventbrite.com>

Petition To Keep The Soil In Organic Growing

by Dave Chapman
Longwind Farm
East Thetford, Vermont

Many of us have been growing tomatoes in greenhouse soil for many years. Some of us have been organic, some not, but all of us have achieved success through taking good care of the soil and maintaining organic matter. In recent years I have been dismayed to see more and more hydroponic tomatoes coming on the market with organic certification. As I researched this, I discovered that the National Organic

Program (NOP) is allowing hydroponic growing to be certified as organic. I also discovered that the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB), which is charged with representing the growers and consumers in guiding the decisions of the NOP, made a formal recommendation to ban hydroponic production three years ago. This recommendation is in agreement with the organic standards of most of the rest of the world.

I have started two petitions (one for organic growers and one for everyone else) to protest the erosion of the national organic standards. I have worked hard for many years to grow the best organic vegetables that I could. In recent years, there has been real erosion of the standards, as the government has allowed hydroponically grown vegetables, mostly from Mexico, to become certified

organic. Hydroponically grown means without soil, so all the nutrients are mixed in a tank and supplied through irrigation. I disagree with calling this organic. It is in opposition to the principles of organic growing, which are based on the idea, "feed the soil, not the plant." How can you do that if there is no soil, and no soil life? I hope you can take 30 seconds to sign this petition online. I talked

with the head of the NOP, and he believes nobody cares about this. We can change this situation if we raise our voices. Go to: <http://www.keepthesoilinorganic.org/>

Stay Informed About Practical Produce Safety Classes

Ginger Nickerson, UVM Extension Produce Safety Coordinator will be offering

day-long workshops on writing a produce safety plan for your farm, in late February and early March. Workshops are planned for Chittenden, Orleans, Bennington, and Lamoille Counties. If you are not on Ginger's e-mail list and would like to learn about these workshops, e-mail her at: gnickers@uvm.edu or call: 802-505-8189.

**Vermont Farm Viability Program**

Now accepting applications from farmers and ag-related businesses for in-depth, one-on-one business planning and technical assistance. More than 97% of farmers surveyed report their business and financial analysis skills have improved since enrolling in the program! More information at: www.vhcb.org/viability.html or call Liz Gleason at 802 828 3370

A program of the Vermont Housing & Conservation Board

CLASSIFIEDS

Consumer Night Returns to the Vermont Farm Show

Fun for all – Families, Foodies, and Farmers!

By Chris Batson, VAAFM

Come celebrate the diversity of Vermont's agricultural products January 29th, 2014 at the 3rd annual Consumer Night at the Vermont Farm Show. On the second night of the farm show, attendees will have the opportunity to attend the Buy Local Market where they can learn about, sample and purchase a broad range of products made within the state. Attendees will also have the opportunity to watch state Representatives, Senators and employees of the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets compete in the annual Capital Cook-off—an Iron-chef style cooking challenge.

The Buy Local Market gives Vermont producers the opportunity to engage with new customers through sampling and conversation. As well it provides customers a unique time to learn about new

products and purchase goods from around the state. At the market, one can find ice creams, cheeses, wines, beers, meats, fruits, vegetables, maple syrups, honeys, and more. A number of vendors also specialize in hand-made crafts, like textiles, candles and jewelry—all the best products under one roof.

At 5:15pm the Capital Cook-off will begin with the unveiling of the evening's local ingredients. The cooking challenge continues until 6:30pm at which point the contestants must submit their dishes for review by a panel of judges—which for the first time could include you! The Agency is excited to announce a vendor scavenger hunt open to all Consumer Night attendees. Those who complete the scavenger hunt will be entered to win the final seat on the esteemed judging panel that includes area restaurant owners, chefs and public officials.

There is no admission fee for the Buy Local Market, however we

recommend bringing a non-perishable food donation to support the Vermont Food Bank. Farm Show patrons can enter the main entrance and head towards the Blue Ribbon Pavilion at the Champlain Valley Expo Center starting at 4:00pm.

Event highlights and winners will be announced live on WCAX dur-

ing the evening news, but don't miss the opportunity to sample and learn about Vermont's products in person—perhaps even pick up a recipe or two from the Capital Cook-off winners!

To those interested in vending, booth space is free and applications are still being accepted. Contact Faith Raymond (faith.raymond@state.vt.us) at the Agency of Agriculture for an application. For all other inquiries, please contact Abbey Willard (802-828-3829; abbey.willard@state.vt.us) or Johanna Herron (802-505-0490; Johanna.herron@state.vt.us).

Consumer Night Schedule

January 29th, 2014

Buy Local Market, Blue Ribbon Pavilion
4:00-7:00 pm

Capital Cook-off, Blue Ribbon Pavilion

5:15 pm – Introduction by Sec. of Agriculture Chuck Ross

Scavenger Hunt winner selected

5:30 pm – Team 1 reveals local ingredients and begins cooking

5:35 pm – Team 2 reveals local ingredients and begins cooking

5:40 pm – Team 3 reveals local ingredients and begins cooking

6:30 pm – Team 1 must stop cooking, presentation of dish to judges

6:35 pm – Team 2 must stop cooking, presentation of dish to judges

6:40 pm – Team 3 must stop cooking, presentation of dish to judges

7:00 pm – Judges announce Capital Cook-off winners!

Share Your Story

By Andy Wood, Guest Columnist

Today farmers are more productive than they have been in all of human history. This is a great testament to the productivity of farmers. However, there is a consequence for that increase in productivity: A disconnect between consumers and the processes essential to produce food. The average American is now five generations removed from the farm and has no understanding of how a farm operates.

This disconnect needs to be recognized and addressed. The risks

for agriculture to be silent are too great. With well over 98 percent of our population no longer connected with the farm our society's paradigm for viewing agriculture is changing. There is tremendous amount of misinformation that is meant to drive consumers away from many aspects of agriculture. If agriculture does not share its story then many of our practices could be taken away unnecessarily.

We all have the opportunity to share our story. Sharing your story does not have to be hard. You do not have to be an expert in all areas of

your industry. You are an expert in what you do. You can speak to the practices you use to manage your fields or livestock. You can speak to the practices that you use to make the quality products you make. Every farmer and every industry professional can share their story.

There are many ways to share your story. You can share it with your family at the Christmas party, you can share a Facebook status about your day, you can talk with the person behind you in line at the grocery store, or maybe it is hosting a school group at your farm. It is not about how or where we each share our story, but that we share it and do not assume that anyone else we share it for us. What agriculture does for

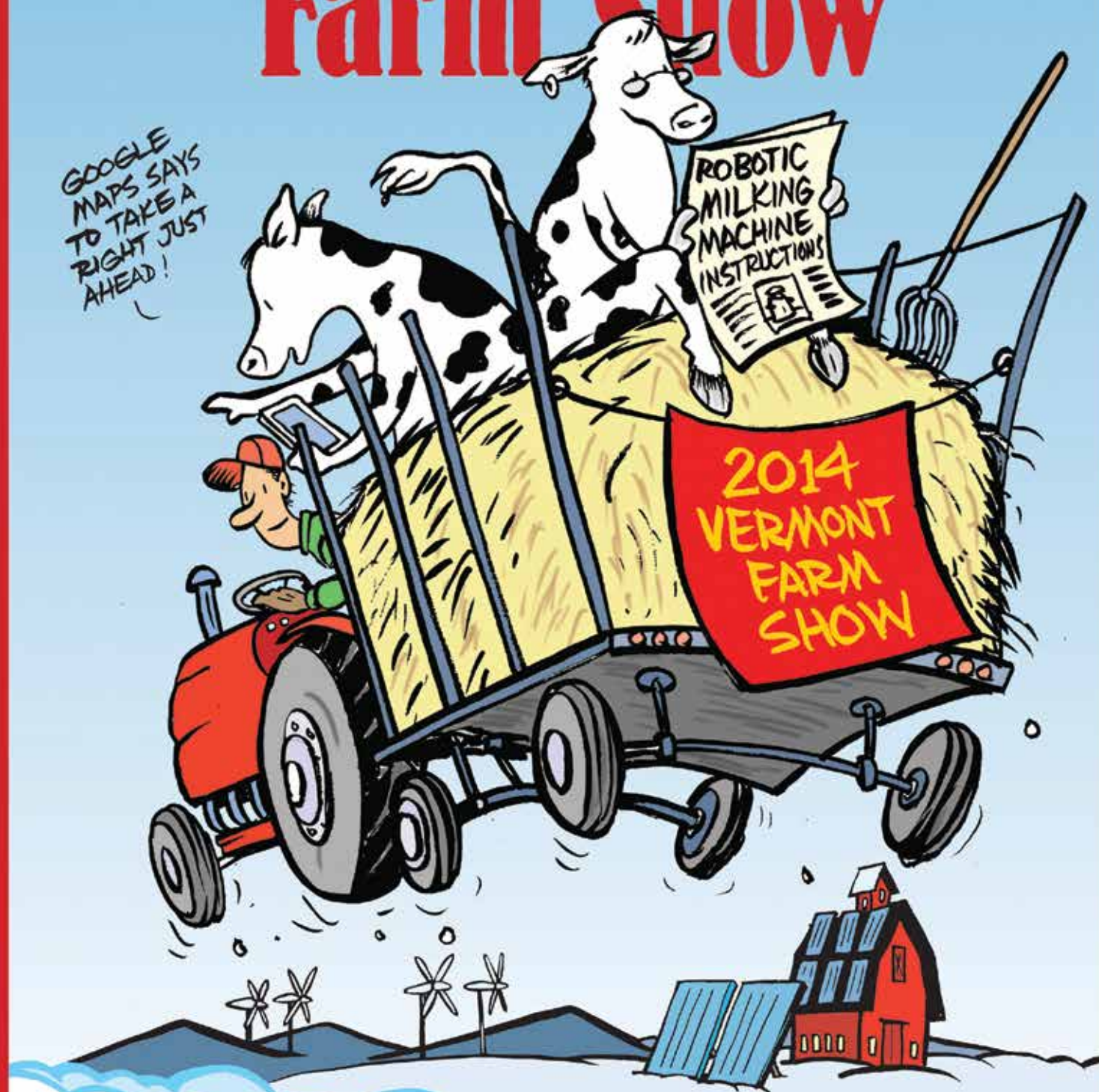
our society is important. We work to make sure that the environment is cared for, that our livestock is cared for and that our society is feed. Our society does not hear the positive side of agriculture enough and every individual can work to change that.

Andy grew up on a 50 cow farm in Concord, VT. He is a graduate of VTC and UVM as a part of the FARMS 2+2 program. He worked as a herdsman at Riverside Farm in Richmond, VT and at Vermont Technical College as the farm manager. He is currently an agricultural loan officer at Vermont Agricultural Credit Corporation. He has written this article as a part of the Young Dairy Leaders Institute that focuses on dairy advocacy.

Come
Join Us
at the

2014 Vermont Farm Show

GOOGLE
MAPS SAYS
TO TAKE A
RIGHT JUST
AHEAD!



Champlain Valley Exposition

Tuesday, January 28, 9AM – 5PM

Wednesday, January 29, 9AM – 7:00PM

Thursday, January 30, 9AM – 4PM

Free Admission!
Free Parking!